

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

KONDO et al

Atty. Ref.: 2018-873

Serial No. Unknown

TC/A.U.:

Filed: April 5, 2004

Examiner:

For: PIPE JOINT STRUCTURE AND METHOD OF ASSEMBLING SAME

\* \* \* \* \*

April 5, 2004

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

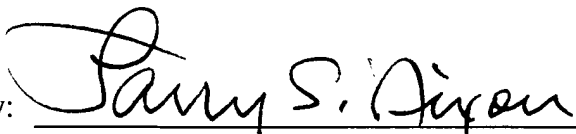
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned attorney brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, a copy of each non-U.S. patent being enclosed. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because cited.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date Considered

Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)